

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS****Claims 1 – 19 (cancelled)****Claim 20 (new):** A container for in field urine analysis comprising:

an opening for collecting a urine sample in the contained, a base for the container, and a wall for the container;

a cover for sealing the opening of the container;

an assay assembly with the container for chemically analyzing the urine sample, the assay assembly having at least one assay strip provided for the assembly and being in liquid transmittable contact with wicking, the wicking having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container and being for communication with urine in the container such that, in use, when there is urine in the container and the container is in an upright position with the opening above the base, the urine wicks up the wicking to the assay strip thereby to permit a flow of urine in the container to the assay strip; and

the assay strip being directed adjacent to the wall of the container thereby to be readable through the container wall.

Claim 21 (new): The container of claim 20, including a series of assay strips in parallel relationship on the assay assembly.

Claim 22 (new): The container of claim 20, wherein the wicking material acts to draw urine upwardly to the assay strip.

Claim 23 (new): The container of claim 20, wherein the assay assembly is substantially the same height as the height of the container.

Claim 24 (new): The container of claim 20, wherein the assay assembly conforms to the inner wall of the container.

Claim 25 (new): The container of claim 20, wherein the container includes and an essentially circular portion for receiving a screw-on cap to close the circular portion.

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601

Claim 26 (new): The container of claim 20 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 27 (new): An assembly for chemically analyzing a urine sample in a container, comprising:

a backing;

at least one assay strip provided on a front surface of the backing so that, in use, it is in liquid transmittable contact with urine in the container so that urine in a container travels to the assay strip;

a front cover provided on the front surface of the backing to facilitate locating the assay strip between the backing and the front cover, the backing together with the front cover and the assay strip being locatable adjacent a wall of a container and extendable from a position proximal to the bottom of the container to a position proximal to the top of the container; and

a wicking element extending from the front of the backing to the back of the backing to facilitate urine flow from the container to the assay strip.

Claim 28 (new): An assembly as claimed in claim 27 wherein the wicking material acts to draw urine upwardly.

Claim 29 (new): An assembly as claimed in claim 27 wherein the container has a curved wall profile.

Claim 30 (new): An assembly as claimed in claim 27 wherein the container has a curved wall profile, and the assay assembly is for adjacency with the curved wall.

Claim 31 (new): An assembly as claimed in claim 27 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 32 (new): An assembly for chemically analyzing a urine sample comprising:

a container with an opening and a base;

an assay assembly comprising:

a liquid impermeable backing;

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601

at least one assay strip provided on a front surface of the liquid impermeable backing;

a wicking provided with one portion of the wicking being in fluid connection to the assay strip with another portion of the wicking being for contact with a urine sample in the container for receiving the assay assembly and having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container so that, in use, when urine is in the container and the container is in an upright position with the opening above the base, urine wicks up to the assay strip and thereby permits a flow of urine in the container to the assay strip;

a surface of the liquid impermeable backing for locating the assay strip between the front cover and the liquid impermeable backing; and

the assay assembly being for mounting against a wall of the container thereby to be visible through a container wall.

Claim 33 (new): An assembly of claim 32 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 34 (new): A container for in field urinalysis comprising:

an opening for collecting a urine sample and a base for the container, the container being substantially transparent;

a cover for sealing the opening of the container;

an assay assembly provided in the container for chemically analyzing the urine sample, the assay assembly comprising a liquid impermeable layer, at least one assay strip provided on a front surface of the liquid impermeable layer facing outwardly and being viewable through the container;

at least one wicking, the wicking having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container and being an intermediate element extending to the assay strip and being arranged with one portion of the intermediate wicking extending to communicate with the assay strip to permit urine to pass from the wicking to the assay strip; and

an element provided to the assay assembly for inhibiting the assay strip from liquid contact with the urine sample except through the wicking so that, in use, urine wicks through the

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601

wicking to the strip, and up the strip when the container is located with the opening above the base.

Claim 35 (new): The container of claim 34 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 36 (new): An assembly for in field urine analysis, comprising:

a container having an opening for collecting a urine sample, and a base for the container, the container being substantially transparent;

a cover for sealing the opening of the container and the container being operable when in an upright position to effect the assaying;

an assay assembly including a rear surface for supporting a liquid impermeable backing for mounting a liquid impermeable backing for an assay assembly in the container, the rear surface being shaped to conform generally to the container wall, and to extend at least partly in adjacency with the periphery of the container;

the assay assembly having the liquid impermeable layer, at least one assay strip provided on a front surface of the liquid impermeable layer facing outwardly and viewable through the container; and

at least one wicking for contacting the assay strip at one end of the wicking and for contacting the urine at the other end of the wicking, and having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container, and for causing urine to wick to the assay strip, and up the strip when the container is located with the opening above the base.

Claim 37 (new): The assembly of claim 36, wherein the rear surface of the assembly is injection molded and made from a flexible resilient material, and includes a pair of slots spaced apart in the front face of the support, the slots being directed longitudinally and being for accommodating the sides of the assay strip in adjacency with a surface of the support and in adjacency to a wall of the container, and including a transverse slot extending between the longitudinal slots and being in communication between the slots for accommodating the assay strip.

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601

Claim 38 (new): The assembly of claim 36 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 39 (new): A method for in field urine analysis comprising:

introducing a urine sample into a container, the container being substantially transparent and having an opening portion, a base portion, a cover closing the opening portion, and an assay assembly for chemically analyzing the urine sample, the assay assembly comprising a liquid impermeable backing, at least one assay strip provided on a front surface of the backing to face outwardly and be viewable through the container, a front cover provided on the front surface of the backing, and the front cover locating the assay strip between the front cover and the backing;

locating the container with the opening above the base, and the wicking having a portion extending for connection with a urine sample in the container and a portion for adjacency with the assay strip;

allowing urine to wick up a wicking to the assay strip; and

analyzing the urine on the assay strip.

Claim 40 (new): The method of claim 39 wherein the urine wicks solely up the wicking until it reaches the assay strip thereby to provide for continuous flow of the urine to the assay strip.

Claim 41 (new): The method of claim 39 including extending the wicking from the front end of the backing to the rear end of the backing, and wherein the urine wicks both down and up the wicking in traveling from the container to the assay strip thereby to provide for continuous flow of urine to the assay strip.

Claim 42 (new): The method of claim 39 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 43 (new): A system comprising:

a container having a base, an opening, and a top for closing the opening;

a wicking having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container and an upper portion removed from the base in the direction of the opening of the container;

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601

at least one assay strip contacting the wicking in proximity of the removed portion of the wicking, and the wicking having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container, to allow analysis of a urine sample through contact of the urine with the one assay strip; and

wherein, in use the urine contacts the assay strip during transmission of the urine from the lower portion of the wicking to the upper portion of the wicking.

Claim 44 (new): A device for in field urine analysis comprising:

an opening for collecting a urine sample;

a cover for closing the opening of the container, the container being operable in an upright position, with a base of the container below the opening to effect assaying of urine contained in the container; and

an assay assembly provided in the container for chemically analyzing urine sample, the assay assembly being for location in adjacency with a curved wall of the container and the assay assembly comprising:

at least one assay strip provided adjacent to a curved wall of the container and being in liquid transmittable contact with wicking;

the wicking extending at least on the side of the assay assembly adjacent to the curved wall, the wicking having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container and being for communication with urine in the container;

the container being essentially cylindrical and the wall being curved; and

the assay strip being directed adjacent the curved wall of the container.

Claim 45 (new): The device of claim 44, including a series of assay strips in parallel relationship on the assay assembly.

Claim 46 (new): The device of claim 44, wherein the wicking material acts to draw urine upwardly to the assay strip.

Claim 47 (new): The device of claim 44, wherein the assay assembly is substantially the same height as the height of the container.

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601

Claim 48 (new): The device of claim 44 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 49 (new): An assembly for chemically analyzing a urine sample comprising:

- a container;

- a backing;

- a wicking;

- at least one assay strip provided on a front surface of the backing and being in liquid transmittable contact with the wicking;

- the wicking having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container so that, in use, in the container having urine, the urine wicks solely up the wick to the assay strip, and in the use;

- the container is in an upright position with a top through which urine is introduced into the container, and a base for the container;

- a front cover provided on the front surface of the backing for locating the assay strip to the backing; and

- the backing together with the front cover and the assay strip being located adjacent a wall of the container and extending from a position proximal to the top of the container to a position proximal to the bottom of the container so that in use the urine wicks upwardly the container from the base towards the top.

Claim 50 (new): The assembly of claim 49 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 51 (new): An assembly for chemically analyzing a urine sample, comprising:

- a liquid impermeable backing;

- at least one assay strip provided on a front surface of the liquid impermeable backing;

- a wicking provided with one portion of the wicking being connected to the assay strip and with another portion of the wicking being for contact with a urine sample in a container for receiving the assembly, the wicking having a lower portion proximal to a base of the container so that, in use, urine wicks solely up the wicking to the assay strip; and

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601

a front cover provided on the front surface of the liquid impermeable backing for sealing the assay strip to the liquid impermeable backing at one end and two sides of the assay strip.

Claim 52 (new): An assembly as claimed in claim 51, wherein the front cover is substantially transparent such that at least part of an assay strip located behind the front cover is visible through the front cover.

Claim 53 (new): An assembly as claimed in claim 52, including multiple slots in adjacent longitudinal relationship formed in the front cover, the slots being spaced apart longitudinally.

Claim 54 (new): An assembly as claimed in claim 51, including multiple slots in adjacent longitudinal relationship found in the front cover, the slots being spaced apart longitudinally.

Claim 55 (new): An assembly as claimed in claim 51 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.

Claim 56 (new): A device for in field urinalysis comprising:

- a container having an opening for collecting a urine sample, and a base for the container;
- a cover for sealing the opening of the container;

- an assay assembly provided in the container for chemically analyzing the urine sample, the assay assembly comprising:

- a liquid impermeable layer;

- at least one assay strip provided on a front surface of the liquid impermeable layer facing outwardly and viewable through the transparent container;

- at least one longitudinally extending wicking provided on a back surface of the liquid impermeable layer separated from the assay strip by the liquid impermeable layer with one portion of the wicking extending to the assay strip, the wicking having a lower portion proximal to the base of the container; and

- a cover provided on the assay strip and wicking for sealing the wicking and assay strip from liquid contact with the urine sample except at one end portion of the wicking so that, in use,

Serial No. 10/826,473

PATENT
Docket No. 56990-010601

urine wicks solely up the wicking to the strip, the container being operable with the opening above the base.

Claim 57 (new): The device of claim 56 wherein the assay is performed without inverting the container.